

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Military Affairs and Domestic Security Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1208

INTRODUCER: Military Affairs and Domestic Security Committee and Senator Altman

SUBJECT: Specialty License Plates/Florida Salutes Veterans

DATE: April 14, 2010

REVISED: _____

| | ANALYST | STAFF DIRECTOR | REFERENCE | ACTION |
|----|---------|----------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 1. | McManus | Meyer | TR | Fav/1 amendment |
| 2. | Pardue | Pardue | MS | Fav/CS |
| 3. | | | HA | |
| 4. | | | RC | |
| 5. | | | | |
| 6. | | | | |

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

This committee substitute amends s. 320.08058, F.S., increasing the length of time allowed to distribute a percentage of the annual use fees received from the sale of Florida Salutes Veterans specialty license plates to the Department of Veterans' Affairs direct-support organization while reducing the percentage of fees distributed.

This bill amends s. 320.08058 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Currently, s. 320.08058(4)(b)(1), F.S., provides for the distribution of the annual use fee for the Florida Salutes Veterans license plate. Twenty percent is to be distributed to a direct-support organization created under s. 292.055, F.S., for a period not to exceed 24 months after the date the direct-support organization is incorporated. All remaining fees are to be deposited in the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund, which is created in the State Treasury. Monies are to be administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs for veteran's nursing homes and marketing the license plate.

A direct-support organization may be created by the Department of Veterans' Affairs under s. 292.055, F.S., for the purpose of providing assistance, funding, and support for the department in carrying out its mission.

The Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc. was established as the Department of Veterans' Affairs direct support organization in 2008. The foundation is a Corporate Not-For-Profit under ch. 617, F.S.

The following table reflects the sales of Florida Salutes Veterans license plates in 2008 and 2009.

| Year | Plates Sold | Revenue Generated |
|------|-------------|-------------------|
| 2008 | 23,082 | \$ 346,230 |
| 2009 | 24,367 | \$ 365,505 |

Source: Department of Veterans' Affairs

The Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc. received \$69,246 in 2008 and \$73,101 in 2009 as its 20% allocation of the revenue generated from the sales of the plates.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This committee substitute extends the period of annual use fees from the sale of Florida Salutes Veterans license plates distributed to the Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc., from 24 to 48 months. The bill reduces the percentage of use fees distributed from 20% to 10%.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2010.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

This bill extends the period from 24 to 48 months to distribute a percentage of the annual use fees derived from the sale of the Florida Salutes Veterans license plate to the Department of Veterans' Affairs' direct-support organization. The bill reduces the percentage of fees distributed from 20% to 10%. This will provide additional funds for administration of the Florida Veterans Foundation, Inc. but at a reduced rate.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill will increase the distribution of specialty license plate use fees to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund by an estimated \$36,550 annually for two years.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)**CS by Military Affairs and Domestic Security on April 14, 2010:**

This committee substitute decreases the amount of annual use fees that can be distributed to the Department of Veterans' Affairs' direct-support organization from 20% to 10%.

B. Amendments:

None.